

Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. How did the First World War create a new economic situation in India? Explain with examples. [CBSE (F) 2017]

Ans. First World War created a new economic situation:

- (i) It led to a huge increase in defense expenditure.
- (ii) Increase in taxes.
- (iii) Custom duties were raised.
- (iv) Introduction of income tax.
- (v) Villages were called upon to supply soldiers and forced recruitment in rural area.

Q. 2. What was the Khilafat Movement?

Ans. (i) It was a movement started by the Ali brothers, Shaukat Ali and Muhammad Ali.

(ii) It was started to show their allegiance to the spiritual head of the Ottoman Empire, Khalifa.

(iii) To save Khalifa, who was deposed by the British after the World War I, a Khilafat Committee was formed in India.

Q. 3. Why was Non-Cooperation Movement launched by Gandhiji? Explain any three reasons. [CBSE (Comp.) 2017]

Ans. Reasons for the launching of Non-Cooperation Movement:

- (i) To support khilafat agitation.
- (ii) To protest against Rowlatt Act.
- (iii) To redress the wrong done in Punjab.
- (iv) The dissatisfaction from the government of India act of 1919.
- (v) Demand for swaraj

Q. 4. Why did Mahatma Gandhi send eleven demands in his letter to Lord Irwin?

OR

What were the main demands of the 11 demands of Mahatma Gandhi to Viceroy Irwin?

Ans. (i) Mahatma Gandhi found in salt a powerful symbol that could unite the country.

(ii) Some of his demands were of general interest, others were specific demands of different classes.

(iii) The idea was to make the demands wide ranging, so that all classes within the Indian society could identify with them and could be united in a united campaign.

Q. 5. How was the Civil Disobedience Movement different from the Non-cooperation Movement?

Ans. (i) People were now asked not only to refuse cooperation with the British but also to break colonial laws.

(ii) Thousands in different parts of the country broke the salt law, manufactured salt and demonstrated in front of government salt factories.

(iii) Peasants refused to pay land revenue and chaukidari taxes, village officials resigned and in many places forest people violated forest laws by entering into Reserved Forests to collect wood and graze cattle.

Q. 6. How did the Muslims respond to the Civil Disobedience Movement?

Ans. (i) Muslim response was lukewarm to the Civil Disobedience Movement.

(ii) After the Non-cooperation-Khilafat Movement declined, relations between the Hindus and Muslims worsened as each community organised religious processions, provoking Hindu-Muslim communal clashes and riots.

(iii) The important differences were over the question of representation in the future assemblies that were to be elected.

(iv) When the Civil Disobedience Movement started, there was an atmosphere of suspicion and distrust between communities.

Q. 7. Which three early satyagrahi movements were organised by Mahatma Gandhi?

Ans. (i) Champaran Movement (1916) in Bihar: To inspire the peasants to struggle against the oppressive plantation system.

(ii) Kheda Movement (1917): To support the peasants of Kheda district of Gujarat, who could not pay the revenue due to crop failure and a plague epidemic.

(iii) Movement in Ahmedabad (1918): To organise a satyagraha movement amongst cotton mill workers against British atrocities.

Q. 8. Give a brief description of the Rowlatt Satyagraha.

Ans. (i) Rallies were organised, workers went on strike and shops closed down.

(ii) British administration clamped down on nationalists. Local leaders were picked up from Amritsar and Gandhi was barred from entering Delhi.

(iii) Police firing on a peaceful procession at Amritsar provoked widespread attacks on banks, post offices and railway stations.

Q. 9. “Gandhiji’s idea of Satyagraha emphasized the Power of truth and the need to search for truth.” In the light of this statement assess the contribution of Gandhiji towards Satyagraha. [CBSE (Comp.) 2017]

Ans. Contribution of Gandhiji towards Satyagraha:

The idea of Satyagraha emphasized the power of truth and the need to search for truth. It suggested that if the cause was true, if the struggle was against injustice, then physical force was not necessary to fight the oppressor.

Without seeking vengeance or being aggressive, a satyagrahi could win the battle through nonviolence. This could be done by appealing to the consciousness of the oppressor. People including the oppressors had to be persuaded to see the truth, instead of being forced to accept truth through the use of violence. By this struggle truth was bound to ultimately triumph. Mahatma Gandhi believed that this dharma of nonviolence could unite all Indians. Based on the above principle Gandhiji started noncooperation movement and later civil disobedience movement.

Q. 10. How was the sense of collective belonging developed during the freedom movement? Explain. [CBSE (AI) 2017]

Ans. Sense of collective belonging was developed during the freedom movement:

- (i) It came partly through the experience of united struggles.
- (ii) Variety of cultural process through which nationalism captured people’s imagination.
- (iii) History and fiction, folk lore and songs, popular prints and symbols all played a part in the making of nationalism.
- (iv) The identity of the nation was symbolized in a figure image ‘Bharat Mata’.
- (v) Vande Matram was widely sung during the Swadesh movement in Bengal.
- (vi) Icons and symbols helped in unifying people and inspiring in them a feeling of nationalism.
- (vii) Ideas of nationalism also developed through a movement to revive Indian folk lore.
- (viii) Folk tales were sung by bards in the villages to give a true picture of traditional culture.
- (ix) Re interpretation of history created a feeling of nationalism.
- (x) The nationalist histories urged the readers to take pride in Indian great achievement in the past and struggle to change the miserable conditions of life under British rule.

Q. 11. Why did Gandhiji decide to launch a nationwide Satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act 1919? Explain any three reasons. [CBSE (Delhi) 2017]

Ans. Nationwide Satyagraha was decided to be launched against the proposed Rowlatt Act 1919 because:

(i) This act had been hurriedly passed through the Imperial Legislative Council despite the united opposition of the Indian members.

(ii) It gave the government enormous powers to repress political activities.

(iii) Allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for two years.

Q. 12. How did Indians participate in the Non-cooperation Movement?

Ans. (i) They surrendered the titles awarded to them by the British government.

(ii) They boycotted civil services, army, police, courts and legislative councils, schools and foreign goods.

(iii) Gandhiji felt that British were running their government with Indian cooperation only and if Indians had refused to cooperate, British rule in India would have been collapsed.

Q. 13. Who was Baba Ramchandra?

Ans. (i) Baba Ramchandra led the peasant movement in Awadh.

(ii) He was a sanyasi, who had earlier been to Fiji as an indentured labourer.

(iii) He started the movement against talukdars and landlords, who demanded high rent and taxes from the peasants.

Q. 14. What were the conditions of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact?

Ans. (i) Mahatma Gandhi signed the pact with Lord Irwin on 5th March, 1931.

(ii) Gandhiji agreed to participate in a Round Table Conference in England.

(iii) Government agreed to release all the political prisoners.

Q. 15. Why did the rich peasants refuse to participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement, when it was restarted in 1932?

Ans. (i) For them, the fight for Swaraj was a struggle against high revenue.

(ii) But they were deeply disappointed when the movement was called off in 1931 without the revenue rates being revised.

(iii) So when the movement was restarted in 1932, they refused to participate, as their wishes were not fulfilled.

Q. 16. How had the First World War created economic problems in India? Explain. [CBSE (Comp.) 2017]

Ans. The First World War created a new political and economic situation.

(i) It led to huge increase in defence expenditure which was financed by war loans and increasing taxes.

(ii) Through the war years prices increased-doubling between 1913 and 1918-leading to extreme hardship for common people.

(iii) Villages were called upon to supply soldiers and the forced recruitment in rural areas caused widespread anger.

(iv) In 1918-1920 and 1920-21, crops failed in many parts of India resulting in acute shortages of food. This was accompanied by influenza epidemic.

Q. 17. Which ideas of the Gandhian Programme were adopted by the industrial working class?

Ans. (i) Boycott of foreign goods

(ii) Movement against low wages

(iii) Movement against poor working conditions of the workers.

Q. 18. How did B.R. Ambedkar lift the Dalits and take their cause to the British parliament?

Ans. (i) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar organised Dalits into the Depressed Classes Association in 1930.

(ii) He clashed with Mahatma Gandhi at the Second Round Table Conference by demanding separate electorates for the dalits.

(iii) Dalits began organising themselves, demanded reserved seats in educational institutions and a separate electorate which they could get only when they were politically empowered and for that Dr. Ambedkar fully supported them.

Q. 19. "The Congress was reluctant to include the demands of industrial workers in its programme of struggle." Analyse the reasons.

Ans. (i) The industrial working class did not participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement in large numbers, except in the Nagpur region.

(ii) As the industrialists came closer to the congress, workers stayed aloof.

(iii) But inspite of that, some workers did participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement, selectively adopting some ideas of the Gandhian programme. But the congress was reluctant to include workers' demand as part of its programme of struggle.

(iv) It felt that this would alleviate industrialists and divide the anti-imperial forces.

Q. 20. Which two factors shaped Indian politics by the late 1920s?

Ans. (i) The first was the effect of worldwide economic depression.

(ii) Agricultural prices began to fall from 1926 and collapsed after 1930. As the demand for agricultural goods fell and exports declined, peasants found it difficult to sell their harvests and pay their revenue. By 1930, the countryside was in turmoil.

Q. 21. Why did Gandhiji relaunch the Civil Disobedience Movement after the Second Round Table Conference? Explain any three reasons. [CBSE (F) 2017]

Ans. Reasons for Gandhiji relaunching of Civil Disobedience Movement

(i) The negotiations with regard to India's freedom broke down in the Second Round Table Conference held at London.

(ii) Back in India, he discovered that the government had begun a new cycle of repression.

(iii) Ghaffar Khan and Jawaharlal Nehru were put to jail.

(iv) The Congress had been declared illegal.

(v) A series of measures had been imposed to prevent meetings, demonstrations and boycotts. In such a situation he decided to relaunch the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Q. 22. Evaluate the 'Satyagraha Movement' of Gandhiji against the proposed Rowlatt Act, 1919. [CBSE (F) 2017]

Ans. Satyagraha Movement Against The Rowlatt Act

(i) Gandhiji in 1919 decided to launch a nationwide satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act (1919).

(ii) Mahatma Gandhi wanted non-violent civil disobedience against such unjust laws, which would start with a hartal on 6 April.

(iii) Rallies were organised in various cities.

(iv) Workers went on strike in railway workshops, and shops closed down.

(v) Lines of communication such as the railways and telegraph would be disrupted.

(vi) The British administration decided to clamp down on nationalists.

(vii) Local leaders were put to jail.

(viii) On 13 April the Jallianwalla Bagh incident took place.

(ix) Crowd took to streets in many towns.

(x) Government started brutal repression.

(xi) At the Calcutta session of the Congress in September 1920 he felt the need to start a Non Cooperation Movement in support of Khilafat as well as for swaraj.

Q. 23. Evaluate the contribution of folklore, songs, popular prints etc., in shaping the nationalism during freedom struggle. [CBSE Delhi 2017]

Ans. Role of folklore:

(i) History and fiction, folklore and songs, popular prints and symbols, all played a part in the making of Nationalism.

(ii) Identity of India came to be visually associated with the image of Bharat Mata.

(iii) In the 1870s, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote 'Vande Mataram' as a hymn to the motherland.

(iv) Idea of Nationalism also developed through a movement to revive Indian folklore.

Q. 24. Why was the offer of dominion status by Lord Irwin rejected by Indian National Congress?

Ans. In an effort to win them over, the Viceroy, Lord Irwin, announced in October 1929, a vague offer of 'dominion status' for India in an unspecified future and a round table conference to discuss a future constitution. This did not satisfy the Congress leaders. The radicals within the Congress, led by Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose, became more assertive. The liberals and moderates, who were proposing a constitutional system within the framework of British dominion, gradually lost their influence.

Q. 25. What were Mahatma Gandhi's views on women's participation in the national movements?

Ans. During Gandhiji's salt march, thousands of women came out of their homes to listen to him. They participated in protest marches, manufactured salt, and picketed foreign cloth and liquor shops. Many went to jail. But Gandhiji was convinced that it was the duty of women to look after home and health, be good mothers and good wives.

For a long time, the Congress was reluctant to allow women to hold any position of authority within the organisation.

Q. 26. Why was Poona Pact signed?

Ans. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was demanding separate electorates for dalits. Mahatma Gandhi believed that separate electorates for dalits would slow down the process of their integration into society. Ambedkar ultimately accepted Gandhiji's position and the result was Poona Pact of September 1932. It gave the depressed classes reserved seats in provincial and central legislative councils, but they were to be voted in by general electorate.

Q. 27. “When the Civil Disobedience Movement started there was an atmosphere of suspicion and distrust between communities.” Why was it so?

OR

Why Muslims did not willingly participate in CDM?

Ans. Alienated from the Congress, large sections of Muslims could not respond to the call for a united struggle. Many Muslim leaders and intellectuals expressed their concern about the status of Muslims as a minority within India. They feared that the culture and identity of minorities would be submerged under the domination of a Hindu majority.

Q. 28. “Ideas of nationalism also developed through a movement to revive Indian folklore.” Elaborate.

Ans. In the late 19th century, Indian nationalists began recording folk tales sung by bards and they toured villages to gather folk songs and legends. These tales, they believed, gave a true picture of traditional culture that had been corrupted and damaged by outside forces. It was essential to preserve this folk tradition in order to discover one's national identity and restore a sense of pride in one's past.

Q. 29. What do you know about Natesa Sastri?

Ans. Many people were collecting ballads, folk tales and myths, etc. to revive Indian folklore. In Madras, Natesa Sastri published a massive four-volume collection of Tamil folk tales, *The Folklore of Southern India*. He believed that folklore was national literature; it was 'the most trustworthy manifestation of people's real thoughts and characteristics'.

Q. 30. How did Mahatma Gandhi uplift untouchables?

Ans. Mahatma Gandhi called the untouchables, 'Harijans' or the children of God, organised satyagraha to secure their entry into temples and access to public wells, tanks, roads and schools. He himself cleaned toilets to dignify the work of the sweepers (bhangi) and persuaded upper castes to change their heart and give up the sin of 'untouchability'.

Q. 31. How did the salt Satyagraha become an effective tool of resistance against British colonialism in India during 1930? Explain. [CBSE Sample Question 2017]

Ans. Salt satyagraha

(i) Mahatma Gandhi believed that salt could be a powerful symbol to unite the whole nation. Poor peasants were against high revenue demand, trade depression, wanted remittance of the unpaid rent.

(ii) Rich peasants were enthusiastic supporters of the Civil Disobedience Movement, organising their communities, and at times forcing reluctant members, to participate in

the boycott programmes. For them the fight for swaraj was a struggle against high revenues.

(iii) Industrialist wanted protection against imports of foreign goods, rupee-sterling foreign exchange ratio that would discourage imports, formed FICCI

(iv) Workers-against poor working conditions and low wages.

(v) Women-service to the nation as the sacred duty.

(vi) Salt was made was an act of civil disobedience.

(vii) Workers went on strike in railway workshops shops closed down.

(viii) Local leaders were arrested.

Q. 32. Who had designed the 'swaraj flag' by 1921? Explain the main features of this 'swaraj flag.' [CBSE Delhi 2016]

Ans. Mahatma Gandhiji designed the "Swaraj Flag" by 1921.

Features:

(i) It had tricolours-Red, Green and White

(ii) It had a spinning wheel in the center.

(iii) It represents the Gandhian idea of self-help.

(iv) It had become a symbol of defiance.

Q. 33. "The Civil Disobedience Movement was different from the Non-Cooperation Movement." Support the statement with examples. [CBSE Delhi 2016]

Ans. The Civil Disobedience Movement was different from the Non-Cooperation Movement:

Non-Cooperation Movement:

(i) The people were asked not to cooperate with the government.

(ii) Foreign goods were boycotted.

(iii) Liquor shops were picketed.

(iv) Foreign cloth burnt in huge.

(v) In many places merchants and traders refused to trade on foreign goods or finance foreign traders.

(vi) Students left the government owned schools and colleges.

(vii) Lawyers gave up legal practices.

Civil Disobedience Movement:

- (i) People were asked to break colonial laws.
- (ii) The countrymen broke the salt law.
- (iii) Peasants refused to pay revenue and chaukidari tax.
- (iv) Village officials resigned from their jobs.
- (v) Forest people violated forest rules and laws.

Q. 34. Why did the different social groups join the Civil Disobedience Movement? Explain. [CBSE (F) 2016]

Ans. Different social groups in The Civil Disobedience Movement

(i) Rich Peasantry Group—The patidar and jats demanded reduction in revenue and participated in the boycott program.

(ii) Poor Peasantry Group—They wanted unpaid rent to be remitted , joined radical movement led by the socialist and communist.

(iii) Business Class Group— Prominent industrialist like Purushottam Das, G.D. Birla formed FICCI. They wanted protection against imports of foreign goods and rupee sterling exchange ratio and refused to sell imported goods.

(iv) Working Class Group— Nagpur Workers adopted boycott of foreign goods, against low wages and poor working conditions.

(v) Women— participated in the protest marches, manufacturing of salt and boycotted foreign goods.

Q. 35. What type of flag was designed during the ‘Swadeshi Movement’ in Bengal? Explain its main features. [CBSE (AI) 2016]

Ans. During the Swadeshi Movement in Bengal the flag designed was Tricolour flag.

The three features of the flag were:

- (i) The colour of the flag was — Red, Green and Yellow.
- (ii) It represented eight provinces in British India.
- (iii) It had crescent moon representing Hindus and Muslims.

Q. 36. “The plantation workers in Assam had their own understanding of Mahatma Gandhi and the notion of Swaraj”. Support the statement with arguments. [CBSE (AI) 2016]

Ans. The plantation workers in Assam had their own understanding of Mahatma Gandhi and notion of Swaraj.

(i) For plantation workers in Assam, freedom meant the right to move freely in and out of the confined space in which they were enclosed.

(ii) Swaraj meant relating a link with the village from which they had come.

(iii) Under the Inland Emigration Act of 1859 plantation workers were not permitted to leave the Tea Gardens without permission.

(iv) When they heard of the Non-Cooperation movement thousands of workers defied the authorities, left plantations and headed home.

(v) They believed that Gandhi Raj was coming and everyone would be given land in their own village.

**Q. 37. Evaluate the role of business classes in the 'Civil Disobedience Movement'.
[CBSE (AI) 2017]**

Ans. Role of business classes in the 'Civil Disobedience Movement':

(i) The business classes reacted against colonial policies that restricted business activities.

(ii) They wanted protection against imports of foreign goods and a rupee sterling foreign exchange ratio that would discourage imports.

(iii) In order to organise business interest, they formed the Indian Industrial and Commercial Congress in 1920 and the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) in 1927.

(iv) They gave financial assistance for the movement.

(v) They refused to buy and sell imported goods.